

Boswells Tavern
Rt. 22, .1 mile southeast of intersection
of Rts. 22 and 15
Gordonsville vicinity
Green Springs Historic District
Louisa County
Virginia

HABS No. VA-1217

HABS
VA,
55-GORD.V
4-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Virginia	COUNTY Louisa	TOWN OR VICINITY Gordonsville vicinity; Green Springs Historic District
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Boswell's Tavern (John Boswell - 18th century owner)		HABS NO. VA-1217
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE None.		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) Route 22, .1 mile southeast of intersection of Routes 22 and 15.		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) (National Register 1735 Nomination Form)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Unknown	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) An important example of a Federal tavern building of the 18th century. Frequent meeting place of such notables as Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry and James Madison. In 1781 the Marquis de Lafayette encamped there on his		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Colonial ordinary (tavern)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Clapboarded frame dwelling with brick foundations and tin roof.		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) Made primarily of two rectangular blocks. Two stories. Not measured.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE A pair of exterior end chimneys serve the west end. Pedimented entrance. Six-over-nine and nine-over-nine sash windows.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Each block is two rooms deep. Original features include the staircase, handcarved mantels, the wainscoting, hat pegs, the "damsel's" staircase, and the tavern window.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES A study on the east side was added sometime during the 20th century. The eastern block was originally one-and-one-half stories; the wing was raised to two full stories (year unknown).		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Private residence in excellent condition.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) 1) National Register of Historic Places Inventory - Nomination Form. 2) Interview with Mr. John C. Schwem, February 9, 1985. 3) Virginia Landmark Register and National Register of Historic Places.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Patricia E. Williams, student, Mary Washington College		DATE April 23, 1985

SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

way to cut off the British from military supplies in Charlottesville. Original use was as a private dwelling.

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ADDENDUM TO:
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XEROGRAPHIC COPIES OF COLOR TRANSPARENCIES

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
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Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20001